

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-03

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 02640

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FOR GARRISON FROM MATLOCK

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. ADDITIONAL APARTMENTS (SEE MOSCOW 2599). UNLESS WE SOON RECEIVE THE ADDITIONAL SEVEN APARTMENTS PROMISED IN THE MARCH 26 PROTOCOL, WE ARE GOING TO HAVE TO POSTPONE SOME ARRIVALS THIS SUMMER. WE SUGGEST THAT BOTH THE DEPT AND THE EMBASSY GO IN WITH IDENTICAL FORMAL NOTES POINTING OUT THAT THE SOVIETS ARE CLEARLY IN DEFAULT OF THEIR SPECIFIC, WRITTEN COMMITMENTS ON ADDITIONAL HOUSING. PLEASE PROVIDE US WITH THE TEXT OF THE DEPT'S NOTE. WE ALSO BELIEVE THE DEPT SHOULD STUDY WHAT OPTIONS THERE ARE FOR PUTTING PRESSURE ON THE SOVIETS' CONSTRUCTION AT MOUNT ALTO. COULD WE HALT THEIR CONSTRUCTION, FOR EXAMPLE? WOULD THE CONTRACTOR OR THE SOVIETS BEAR THE COST OF SUCH A DELAY? ARE THERE ANY STEPS SHORT OF HALTING CONSTRUCTION WHICH WOULD BRING PRESSURE TO BEAR?

2. CAN YOU CONFIRM THAT THE SOVIETS WILL OCCUPY THEIR APARTMENTS IN THE NEW EMBASSY COMPLEX BEFORE DEC. 31, 1979? IT WAS OUR UNDERSTANDING HERE THAT THE
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APARTMENT BUILDING WOULD TAKE ABOUT 18 MONTHS TO BUILD AND CONSTRUCTION BEGAN ABOUT JUNE 1977. HOW MANY APARTMENTS WILL THEY HAVE AT MOUNT ALTO? WILL IT HOUSE ALL THEIR EMBASSY PERSONNEL? WE WANT TO USE THIS INFORMATION IN OUR DISCUSSION WITH UPDK, WHO ARE SUDDENLY BALKING AT GIVING US A NO INCREASE IN RENT CLAUSE UNTIL DEC 31, 1982, ALTHOUGH THEY HAVE ALREADY AGREED TO IT IN

WRITING FOR THE JAPANESE EMBASSY. MATLOCK

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